

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/785,381

Examiner

Steven S. Paik

Applicant(s)

WAGNER ET AL.

Art Unit

2876

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the telephone interview on June 16, 2006.
2. ☐ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10,13-16,18-25,27-31,34-42,44-46,48-51,53-58,60-63 and 65.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application  |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>6/16/06 and 9/1/06</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____    | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment  |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance                                   |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR

1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with David N. Weiss on June 16, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

#### **IN THE CLAIMS:**

The applicant requested an Examiner's Amendment to correct the dependency of claim 62. Claim 62 is now a dependent claim of Claim 61.

1. (Original) A disposal and provisioning system comprising:

a waste disposal unit, the waste disposal unit including:

a processor;

a scanner couple to the processor, the scanner configured to scan a code on items deposited in the waste disposal unit;

a network interface coupled to the processor, the network interface configured to transmit and receive information over a network; and

a remote processing system configured to be coupled to the waste disposal unit via the network, the remote processing system including:

a database storing sample preference associate with a user of the waste disposal unit, wherein the sample preferences are stored at least in part to select samples to be provided to the user;

a first instruction configured to receive scanned information from the waste disposal unit for at least a first item;

a second instruction configured to determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

a third instruction configured to receive an indication via the waste disposal unit whether the user wants to order a replacement for the sample;

a fourth instruction configured to locate replacement options for the sample;

a fifth instruction configured to transmit the replacement options to the waste disposal unit;

a sixth instruction configured to receive from the waste disposal unit an option selection by the user.

2. (Previously presented) The waste disposal system as defined in Claim 1, the remote processing system further comprising a seventh instruction configured to receive at least one of an indication via the waste disposal unit as to why the user does not want to order a replacement for the sample, or an indication via the waste disposal unit that the user wants to order a replacement for the sample.

3. (Previously presented ) The waste disposal system as defined in Claim 1, the remote processing system further comprising a seventh instruction configured to provide the user with selectable reasons for not ordering a replacement for at least one sample.

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4. (Previously presented) The waste disposal system as defined in Claim 1, the remote processing system further comprising:

a seventh instruction configured to receive a reason for not ordering a replacement for at least one sample; and

an eighth instruction configured to provide the reason to at least one of a manufacturer, retailer, distributor, marketing entity, or an advertiser.

5. (Original) The waste disposal system as defined in claim 1, the remote processing system further comprising a seventh instruction configured cause a non-sample replacement for the sample to be delivered to the user.

6. (Original) The waste disposal system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the waste disposal unit further comprises a touch screen unit configured to display information to the user and to receive user inputs.

7. (Original) The waste disposal system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the waste disposal unit further comprises a presence detection circuit that activates the scanner in response to detecting the presence of an object.

8. (Original) The waste disposal system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the waste disposal unit further comprises a detachable display and user input apparatus coupled via a wireless network.

9. (Original) The waste disposal system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the waste disposal unit is configured to request a user password before performing a scan.

10. (Original) The waste disposal system as defined in Claim 1, wherein the scanner is one of a barcode scanner and a radio frequency scanner.

11. (Cancelled)

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12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously amended) A method of selectively providing samples, comprising:

receiving over a network user specified sample preferences from a user;

storing the sample preferences in a user database;

receiving from a networked waste receptacle discard information related to at least a first item package disposed of by the user;

causing a first sample item to be delivered to the user based at least in part on the sample preferences and the discard information;

receiving from a the networked waste receptacle discard information related to at least a first sample item package disposed of by the user;

causing an order form for a regular version of the first sample item to be presented to the user;

receiving an indication from the w that the user does not want to order a regular version of the first sample item; and

requesting that the user provide a reason for not wanting to order a regular version of the first sample item.

14. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 13, further comprising offering the user selectable reasons for not ordering the regular version of the first sample item.

15. (Previously amended) The method as defined in Claim 14, wherein the user selectable reasons include at least two or more of:

the user does not use the first sample item-type;

the user used the sample item but did not like it; and

the user used and like the sample item, but prefers another brand.

16. (Previously presented) A method of selectively providing samples, comprising:

receiving user specified sample preferences from a first user over a network;

storing the preferences in a database;

causing a first sample that satisfies the user specified sample preferences to be delivered to the first user;

receiving coupon information via a waste disposal unit; and

causing an item corresponding to the coupon to be delivered to the first user.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 16, further comprising receiving an indication that the first sample has been used from a waste disposal unit.

19. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 16, further comprising:

receiving an indication that at least packaging for the first sample has been deposited in a disposal unit;

causing a query to be presented via the disposal unit to the first user in order to determine if the first user wants to order a non-sample version of the first sample; and

receiving a response to the query.

20. (Previously amended) The method as defined in Claim 19, further comprising

causing at least one query to be presented to the first user in order to determine at least one of a size or a quantity of the non-sample version that the first user wants.

21. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 16, further comprising receiving information scanned from the first sample by the first user using a scanner coupled to a waste disposal unit.

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22. (Original) The method-as defined in Claim 16, further comprising:

receiving demographic information and sample preferences associated with a second user, and

causing samples that correspond to the user sample preferences and demographics to be delivered to the second user.

23. (Previously presented) The method as defined in Claim 16, further comprising determining at least one of a percent or a number of users that ordered a non-sample version of the first sample after receiving a sample of the product.

24. (Previously presented) The method as defined h Claim 16, further comprising determining at least one of a percent or a number of users that disposed of the first sample and did not order a non-sample version.

25. (Previously amended) A method of selectively providing samples, comprising:

receiving user specified sample preferences from a first user over a network;

storing the preferences in a database;

causing a first sample 'that satisfies the user specified sample preferences to be delivered to the first user;

receiving an indication that at least packaging for the first sample has been deposited in a disposal unit;

causing a query to be presented to the first user in order to determine if the first user wants to order a non-sample version of the first sample;

receiving a negative response to the query;

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causing a query to be presented to the first user in order to determine why first the first user did not want to order a non-sample version of the first sample;

receiving a response from the first user including at least a first reason from the first user indicating why the first user did not want to order a non-sample version of the first sample; and

providing information related to the response to at least one of a manufacturer, a retailer, a distributor, a marketing entity, or an advertiser.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously presented) A disposal data processing and provisioning system, comprising:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of at least a first waste disposal unit;

a processing system configured to be coupled to at least the first waste disposal unit via the network, the processing system including:

a first instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive information from the waste disposal unit for at least a first item;

a second instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample; and

a third instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive an indication via the waste disposal unit whether the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item;

a fourth instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to locate replacement options for the first item;



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a fifth instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to transmit the replacement options to the first waste disposal unit; and

a sixth instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive from the waste disposal unit an option selection by the user.

28. (Previously presented) A disposal data processing and provisioning system, comprising:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of at least a first waste disposal unit;

a processing system configured to be coupled to at least the first waste disposal unit via the network, the processing system including:

a first instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive information from the waste disposal unit for at least a first item;

a second instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

a third instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive an indication via the waste disposal unit whether the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item; and

a fourth instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive an indication via the waste disposal unit as to why the user does not want to order a non-sample version for the first item, or an indication via the waste disposal unit that the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item.

29. (Previously presented) A disposal data processing and provisioning system, comprising:

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a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of at least a first waste disposal unit;

a processing system configured to be coupled to at least the first waste disposal unit via the network, the processing system including:

a first instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive information from the waste disposal unit for at least a first item;

a second instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

a third instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive an indication via the waste disposal unit whether the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item; and

a fourth instruction stored in computer readable memory that causes selectable reasons for not ordering a non-sample version for the first item to be presented to the user via the waste disposal unit.

30. (Previously presented) A disposal data processing and provisioning system, comprising:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of at least a first waste disposal unit;

a processing system configured to be coupled to at least the first waste disposal unit via the network, the processing system including:

a first instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive information from the waste disposal unit for at least a first item;

a second instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample; and

a third instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive an indication via the waste disposal unit whether the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item;

a fourth instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to process a reason for not ordering a non-sample version for the first item; and

an fifth instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to provide the reason to at least one of a manufacturer, a retailer, a distributor, a marketing entity, or an advertiser.

31. (Previously presented) A disposal data processing and provisioning system, comprising:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of at least a first waste disposal unit;

a processing system configured to be coupled to at least the h t waste disposal unit via the network, the processing system including:

a first instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive information from the waste disposal unit for at least a first item;

a second instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

a third instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive an indication via the waste disposal unit whether the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item; and

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a fourth instruction configured cause a non-sample replacement for the first item to be delivered to the user.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Previously amended) A method of selectively providing samples, comprising:

receiving over a network user specified sample preferences from a user,

storing the sample preferences in a user database;

receiving from a networked waste receptacle discard information related to at least a first item package disposed of by the user, and

causing a h t sample to be delivered to the user based at least in part on the sample preferences and the discard information;

receiving from the networked waste receptacle discard information related to at least a first sample item package disposed of by the user,

causing an order form for a regular version of the first sample item to be presented to the user;

receiving an indication from the user that the user does not want to order a regular version of the sample item; and

requesting that the user provide a reason for not wanting to order a regular version of the first sample item.

35. (Original) The method as defined in Claim 34, further comprising offering the user selectable reasons for not ordering the regular version of the first sample item.

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36. (Previously amended) The method as defined in Claim 35, wherein the user selectable reasons include at least two or more of the user does not use the first sample item-type; the user used the first sample item but did not like it; and the user used and like the first sample item, but prefers another brand.

37. (Previously presented) A provisioning system, comprising: a scanning system, including:

- a processor,

- a scanner coupled to the processor, the scanner configured to scan a code on items;

- a network interface coupled to the processor, the network interface configured to transmit and receive information over a network;

- a presence detection circuit that activates the scanner in response to detecting the presence of an object; and

- a processing system configured to be coupled to the scanning system via the network, the processing system including: a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of the taming system, wherein the sample preferences are stored at-least in part to select samples to be provided to the user,

- instructions stored in computer readable memory configured to:

- receive scanned information from the scanning system for at least a first item;

- determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

- receive an indication via the scanning system whether the user wants to order a replacement for the sample; locate replacement options for the sample;

- transmit the replacement options to the scanning system;

- receive from the scanning system an option selection by the user.

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38. (Previously presented) The provisioning system as defined in Claim 37, the remote processing system further comprising an instruction stored in computer readable memory configured to receive an indication via the scanning system as to why the user does not want to order a replacement for the sample, or an indication via the scanning system that the user wants to order a replacement for the sample.

39. (Previously presented) A provisioning system, comprising: a scanning system, including:

- a processor;

- a scanner coupled to the processor, the scanner configured to scan a code on items;

- a network interface coupled to the processor, the network interface configured to transmit and receive information over a network;

- a processing system configured to be coupled to the scanning system via the network, the processing system including:

- a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of the scanning system, wherein the sample preferences are stored at least in part to select samples to be provided to the user;

- instructions stored in computer readable memory configured to:

- receive scanned information from the scanning system for at least a first item;

- determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

- receive an indication via the scanning system whether the user wants to order a replacement for the sample;

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locate replacement options for the sample;  
transmit the replacement options to the scanning system;  
receive from the scanning system an option selection by the user, and  
the instructions further configured to provide the user with selectable reasons for  
not ordering a replacement for at least one sample.

40. (Previously presented) A provisioning system, comprising:

a scanning system, including:

a processor,

a scanner coupled to the processor, the scanner configured to scan a code on,  
items;

a network interface coupled to the processor, the network interface configured to  
transmit and receive information over a network;

a processing system configured to be coupled to the scanning system via the  
network, the processing system including:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of the  
scanning system, wherein the sample preferences are stored at least in part to  
select samples to be provided to the user;

instructions stored in computer readable memory configured to:

receive scanned information from the scanning system for at least a  
first item;

determine from the received scanned information that the first item  
is a sample;

receive an indication via the scanning system whether the user  
wants to order a replacement for the sample;  
locate replacement options for the sample;  
transmit the replacement options to the scanning system;  
receive from the scanning system an option selection by the user;  
the instructions further configured to:  
receive a reason for not ordering a replacement for at least  
one sample, and provide the reason to one or more of a  
manufacturer, retailer, distributor, marketing entity, or an adviser.

41. (Previously presented) The provisioning system as defined in Claim 37, the instructions further configured to cause a non-sample replacement for the sample to be delivered to the user.

42. (Previously presented) The provisioning system as defined in Claim 37, wherein the scanning system further comprises a touch screen unit configured to display information to the user and to receive user inputs.

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Previously presented) A provisioning system, comprising:

a scanning system, including:

a processor;

a scanner coupled to the processor, the scanner configured to scan a code on

items;

a network interface coupled to the processor, the network interface configured to .

transmit and receive information over a network;



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a processing system configured to be coupled to the scanning system via the network, the processing system including:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of the scanning system, wherein the sample preferences are stored at least in part to select samples to be provided to the user, and

instructions stored in computer readable memory configured to:

receive scanned indication from the scanning system for at least a first item;

determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

receive an indication via the scanning system whether the user wants to order a replacement for the sample;

locate replacement options for the sample;

transmit the replacement options to the scanning system;

receive from the scanning system an option selection by the user;

wherein the scanning system further comprises a detachable display and user input apparatus coupled to the processor via a wireless network.

45. (Previously presented) A provisioning system, comprising: a scanning system, including:

a processor;

a scanner coupled to the processor, the scanner configured to scan a code on items;

a network interface coupled to the processor, the network interface, configured to transmit and receive information over a network,

a processing system configured to be coupled to the scanning system via the network, the processing system including:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user of the scanning system, wherein the sample preferences are stored at least in part to select samples to be provided to the user; and

instructions stored in computer readable memory configured to:

receive scanned information from the scanning system for at least a first item;

determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;

receive an indication via the scanning system whether the user wants to order a replacement for the sample;

locate replacement options for the sample;

transmit the replacement options to the scanning system;

receive from the scanning system an option selection by the user;

wherein the scanning system is configured to request a user password before performing a scan.

46. (Previously presented) The provisioning system as defined in claim 37, wherein the scanner includes at least one of a barcode scanner or a radio frequency scanner.

47. (Cancelled)

48. (Previously amended) A method of selectively providing samples, comprising:

receiving over a network user specified sample preferences from a first user;

storing the sample preferences in a user database;

receiving information scanned from a first item package by the first user,

causing a first sample to be delivered to the first user based at least in part on the sample preferences and the scanned information;

receiving information related to a first sample, item package scanned by the first user;

causing an order form for a regular version of the first sample item to be presented to the first user on a display; and

receiving over the network an order from the first user for the non-sample version of the first sample item.

49. (Previously amended) A method of selectively providing samples, comprising:

receiving over a network user specified sample preferences from a first user;

storing the sample preferences in a user database;

receiving information scanned from a first item package by the first user;

causing a first sample item to be delivered to the first user based at least in part on the sample preferences and the scanned information;

receiving information related to a first sample item package scanned by the first user;

causing an order form for a regular version of the first sample item to be presented to the first user on a display; and

receiving over the network an indication from the first user that the user does not want to order a regular version of the first sample item; and

transmitting over the network a request to the user that the a user provide a reason for not wanting to order a regular version of the first sample item.

50. (Previously amended) A method of selectively providing samples, comprising:

receiving over a network user specified sample preferences from a first user;

storing the sample preferences in a user database;  
receiving information scanned from a first item package by the first user;  
causing a first sample to be delivered to the first user based at least in part on the sample preferences and the scanned information; and  
presenting to the first user selectable reasons for not ordering the regular version, of the first sample item.

51. (Previously amended) The method as defined in Claim 50, wherein the user selectable reasons include at least two or more of:

the first user does not use the first sample item-type;  
the first user used the first sample item but did not like it; and  
the first user used and like the sample item, but prefers another brand.

52. (Cancelled)

53. (Previously presented) A data processing and provisioning system, comprising:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user; and  
a processing system configured to be coupled to scanner, the processing system including instructions stored in computer readable memory configured to:

receive information from the scanner for at least a first item;  
determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;  
receive an indication over a network as to whether the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item;  
receive information scanned from a bill by the scanner;  
receive an instruction from the user regarding paying the bill; and

cause the bill to be paid.

54. (Previously presented) The data processing and provisioning system as defined in Claim 53, wherein the instructions are further configured to:

- locate replacement options for the first item;
- transmit the replacement options to a user accessible display, and
- receive a replacement option selection by the user.

55. (Previously presented) A data processing and provisioning system, comprising:

- a database storing sample preferences associated with a user; and
- a processing system configured to be coupled to scanner, the processing system including instructions stored in computer readable memory configured to:

- receive information from the scanner for at least a first item;
- determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;
- receive an indication over a network as to whether the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item;
- receive an indication as to why the user does not want to order a non-sample version for the first item, or an indication that the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item.

56. (Previously presented) A data processing and provisioning system, comprising:

- a database storing sample preferences associated with a user, and
- a processing system configured to be coupled to scanner, the processing system including instructions stored in computer readable memory configured to:

- receive information from the scanner for at least a first item;

determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;  
receive an indication over a network as to whether the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item;  
cause selectable reasons for not ordering a non-sample version for the first item to be presented to the user.

57. (Previously presented) A data processing and provisioning system, comprising:

a database storing sample preferences associated with a user, and  
a processing system configured to be coupled to scanner, the processing system including instructions stored in computer readable memory configured to:  
receive information from the scanner for at least a first item;  
determine from the received scanned information that the first item is a sample;  
receive an indication over a network as to whether the user wants to order a non-sample version for the first item;  
process a reason for not ordering a non-sample version for the first item, and provide the reason to one or more of a manufacturer, a retailer, a distributor, a marketing entity, or an advertiser.

58. (Previously presented) The data processing and provisioning system as defined in Claim 53, wherein the instructions are further configured to cause a non-sample replacement for the first item to be delivered to the user.

59. (Cancelled)

60. (Previously amended) The method as defined in Claim 65, further comprising:

receiving scanned information related to at least a sample item package;

causing an order form for a regular version of the sample to be presented to the user on a display based at least in part on the scanned information; and

receiving over the network an order from the user for the non-sample version of the item sample.

61. (Previously amended) A method of selectively providing samples, comprising:

receiving over a network user specified sample preferences from a first user;

storing the sample preferences in a user database;

receiving over the network identification information related to at least a first item package scanned by the first user;

causing a first sample item to be delivered to the user based at least in part on the sample preferences and the scanned information;

receiving scanned information related to at least a first sample item package;

causing an order form for a regular version of the first sample item to be presented to the first user on a display based at least in part on the scanned information;

receiving an indication from the first user that the user does not want to order a regular version of the first sample item; and

transmitting over the network a request that the user provide a reason for not wanting to order a regular version of the first sample item.

62. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in Claim ~~62~~ 61, further comprising offering the user selectable reasons for not ordering the regular version of the first sample item.

63. (Previously amended) The method as defined in Claim 62, wherein the user selectable reasons include at least two or more of:

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the first user does not use the first sample item-type;

the first user used the sample item but did not like it;

the first user used and like the first sample item, but prefers another brand.

64. (Cancelled)

65. (Previously presented) A method of selectively providing samples, comprising:

receiving over a network user specified sample preferences from a first user;

storing the sample preferences in user database;

receiving over the network identification information related to at least a first item

package scanned by the user;

causing a first sample to be delivered to the user based at least in part on the sample

preferences and the scanned information;

receiving information scanned from a bill by the user;

receiving and instruction from the user regarding paying the bill; and

causing the bill to be paid.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1-10, 13-16, 18-25, 27-31, 34-42, 44-46, 48-51, 53-58, 60-63 and 65 are allowable.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the cited prior art of the record discloses, teaches, or fairly suggests the claimed disposal and provisioning system comprising, among other things, a set of instructions for a user to control replacement of a discarded item. The cited prior art of the references also silent about a database, storing user specified sample preference and the user's response to a particular sample and non-sample item,



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when the sample item is discarded in a networked wasted receptacle. After further search and thorough examination of the present application and in view of the Applicant's arguments and amendments, claims 1-10, 13-16, 18-25, 27-31, 34-42, 44-46, 48-51, 53-58, 60-63 and 65 are found to be in condition for allowance over the prior art made of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven S. Paik whose telephone number is 571-272-2404. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 5:30a-2:00p (Maxi-Flex\*).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on 571-272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would

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like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
Steven S. Paik  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2876

ssp